

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SCEM-02 INT-08

SCI-06 SS-20 NSC-10 DRC-01 /114 W

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R 231215Z NOV 73

FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2494

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMCONSUL TANGIER

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ETRN, ETRD, MO

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN JET FUEL SHORTAGE

1. DEP DIRECTOR CIV AVIATION INFORMED CASABLANCA AIRLINE REPS AT MEETING NOUASSEUR AIRPORT NOVEMBER 21 THAT, BEGINNING DECEMBER 10, GOM WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO ASSURE JET FUEL SUPPLIES AND WILL NO LONGER CONTROL PRICE. FIRST PRIORITY ON AVAILABLE FUEL FROM LOCAL REFINERIES WILL GO TO MOROCCAN STATE LINES (ROYAL AIR MAROC AND INTER MAROC); FOREIGN AIRLINES ADVISED TO GO DIRECTLY TO "TRADITIONAL SUPPLIERS" (I.E. LOCAL DISTRIBUTION SUBSIDIARIES OF INTERNATIONAL OIL COMPANIES) FOR THEIR REQUIREMENTS. ACCORDING TO LAMBRICHTS (PANAM REP AND SOURCE THIS INFORMATION) THIS WILL MEAN SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN PRICE AND LITTLE IF ANY JET FUEL FOR FOREIGN CARRIERS.

2. TEXACO REP PRATHER SAYS SITUATION RESULTS FROM CURRENT INABILITY OF GOM REFINERY (SAMIR) OBTAIN USUAL SUPPLEMENTARY JET FUEL SUPPLIES FROM EUROPEAN SOURCES AT ACCEPTABLE PRICES. SAMIR HAS NEVER HAD SUFFICIENT JET FUEL CAPACITY

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AND GOM UNWILLING PAY PRICES NOW BEING QUOTED EUROPE WHICH

JUMPED FIRST TO \$95/TON AND FINALLY TO \$200/TON. ANY SAMIR SUPPLY BEYOND GOM AIRLINE AND MILITARY NEEDS WILL BE STOCK-PILED AS SECURITY RESERVE. GOM HAS INVITED INTERNATIONAL COMPANY DISTRIBUTING SUBSIDIARIES TO SHOP WORLD MARKET ON OWN ACCOUNT WITH NO PRICE RESTRICTIONS. AGIP HAS ALREADY ADVISED LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR THAT NO SUPPLY AVAILABLE AND PRATHER (WHO AWAITING ADVICE FROM TEXACO/NEW YORK) AGREES WITH AGIP JUDGMENT NO OTHER INTERNATIONAL SUPPLY WILL BE FORTHCOMING. LAMBRICHTS SPECULATES REDUCTION IN GOM'S RUSSIAN CRUDE SUPPLY IS FACTOR BUT BOTH PRATHER AND LOCAL SOURCES DISMISS THIS.

3. SAMIR WILL HAVE INCREASED REFINING CAPACITY TO MEET NEED BY SEPTEMBER, 1974 AND THERE IS POSSIBILITY ALGERIAN JET FUEL AVAILABLE APRIL-MAY, 1974. TILL THEN, HOWEVER, PROSPECT IS FOR GREATLY REDUCED INTERNATIONAL AIR OPERATIONS THROUGH MOROCCO. LUFTHANSA REPORTEDLY HAS CANCELLED TRAINING PROGRAM HERE; LUFTHANSA, KLM (AND PRESUMABLY OTHERS) REDUCING SCHEDULED FREQUENCY. PANAM SCHEDULED FLIGHTS HAVE BEEN FOR SIX MONTHS UPLIFTING FUEL FROM LISBON FOR THRICE-WEEKLY LISBON-CASA ROUNDTRIPS, LAMBRICHTS HAS TELEXED LISBON QUERYING CONTINUED AVAILABILITY THIS SUPPLY. ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE REDUCTION IN CASA SCHEDULE FREQUENCY. PANAM WILL ALSO HAVE TO CANCEL 21 OR MORE CHARTERS SCHEDULED INTO MOROCCO JANUARY-MARCH UNLESS FUEL BECOMES AVAILABLE HERE. LAMBRICHTS HAS GONE NEW YORK FOR WEEKEND TO CONSULT (PANAM FUEL ARRANGEMENTS ALL MADE NEW YORK WITH ESSO).
BRUBECK

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